



The following information is in no way endorsed by the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services. It is intended as information only and you may find it useful for discussion during Parent Advisory Committee meetings.

I will be sending you information periodically. I would appreciate some feedback if this is helpful to you or what other kinds of information you may need.

Disney's American Teacher Awards honor educators who find creative ways to inspire the joys of learning in their students. If there is a teacher you would like to nominate, call toll-free 1-877-ATA-TEACH or log on at www.disneylearning.org Nomination deadline 3-31-00. Will air in December of 2000.

Are you receiving the Special Education Mediation Reporter? This newsletter (free) is produced by the Michigan Special Education Mediation Program (MSEMP). Inquiries should be addressed to the Michigan Special Education Mediation Program, SCAO, 309 N. Washington Square, P.O. Box 30048, Lansing MI 48909. Tel: 517/373-4839. Fax: 517/373/8922. Email: verdonkt@jud.state.mi.us Web address: www.supremecourt.state.mi.us/programs.htm Ask for the Fall/Winter issue to get you started.

Everyone should be on the mailing list for CEN Newsline. This is also a free publication and contains good information about a variety of topics. Direct all inquiries to: C.E.N.

Newsline, Eaton Intermediate School District, 1790 East Packard Highway, Charlotte, MI 48813. Tel: 800-593-9146 #4. Fax: 517/541-1351. Email: tbullock@eaton.k12.mi.us

There is also a bulletin from the National Council on Disability which is "an independent federal agency working with the President and Congress to increase the inclusion, independence, and empowerment of all Americans with disabilities". I have just received a copy of their December, 1999 bulletin and you will have to form your own opinion on the usefulness of this bulletin. They say that it is published monthly. "The Bulletin, which is free of charge, available in alternative formats, and at NCD's award-winning Web site (<http://www.ncd.gov>), brings you the latest issues and news affecting people with disabilities. To subscribe, send e-mail to bulletin-request@ncd.gov and write "subscribe" in the body of the message. Please send your comments to Bulletin editor Mark S. Quigley (mquigley@ncd.gov). 1331 F. Street, NW, Suite 1050, Washington, DC 20004-1107. Tel: 202/272-2004. Fax: 202/272-2022.

Here is a web address to check out: www.idea practices.org/forms/maillist.htm

From the New York Times

Copied from the Winter 2000 TSP Accord

Web Site Opens up for Disabled

Moving the Internet a step closer toward fulfilling its promise to be all inclusive, We Media, a company serving the disabled and their families, recently unveiled a Web site aimed at that market.

At first glance www.wemedia.com appears much like many other commercial or service sites, with lots of information and links to shopping.

But each mouse click beckons users to explore a range of offerings, including education, employment, travel and financial services made to appeal to the needs of the disabled.

Being able to buy groceries, bank and communicate with friends and family by way of the Internet is especially important for the disabled. The site also offers free e-mail and computer-based long-distance phone calls over the Internet.

Education Week

January 26, 2000

People In The News

The Washington-based Council of Chief State School Officers has announced the four finalists for the National Teacher of the Year Award for 2000. The finalists are:

Mitsuye Conover, 42, an 11th grade social studies teacher at the 850-student Barlews High School in Barlews, Oklahoma.

Marilyn Whirry, 65, a 12th grade English/language arts teacher at the 2,150-student Mira Costa High School in Manhattan Beach, California.

Margaret Holtschlag, 47, a 4th grade teacher at the 380-student Murphy Elementary School in Haslett, Michigan.

P. Brett Smith, 37, an elementary music teacher at the 700-student O.H. Anderson Elementary School in Mahtomedi, Minneapolis.

The winner will be announced at a White House ceremony in April. Let's hear it for Margaret!!!!!!!

Research Reports from the National Research and Development Centers link to more than 600 research reports on the latest and most pressing issues in education. Designed for researchers, educators, policy makers, parents, and the general public, this new website gives access to more than 600 reports from the 12 national research and development centers, funded by the Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI). Reports are in full text and/or PDF format and are often available on-line even before they appear in print.

<http://research.cse.ucla.edu/>

That's it for this first edition. Hope this provides some information for your use.
More later!